

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated April 11, 2008. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 14. Reconsideration and favorable action in this case are respectfully requested.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-11 and 14-21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being unpatentable over EP 0843249 to Helmut. Applicants have reviewed this reference in detail and do not believe that it discloses or makes obvious the invention as claimed.

As previously stated, the present invention protects an electronic file, such as firmware, application software or data, from being replaced or modified by someone other than the manufacturer. This prevents alteration of the operation of the computing device by third party modifications (i.e., viruses) or by user changes to the device's intended settings.

In the present invention, the electronic file is associated with a unique identifier for the device. If the processor determines that there is not a valid association between the electronic file and the unique identifier, the electronic file cannot be accessed.

The Examiner states that the Helmut reference teaches an association between a program and a COS (class of service) for the program. If the COS does not match the capability of the CU (cryptographic unit), the application cannot be executed by the CU.

In the last response, the Applicants noted that an application program in Helmut could be executed on any computer with a CU supporting the specified COS. The Examiner noted that the "identifier" cited in the previous set of claims was not restricted to unique identifiers. Applicants have revised the claims to note that the identifier is a unique identifier linked to the computing device.

Thus, unlike Helmut, a file protected in the manner described in the claims cannot be accessed if it is transferred to another device.

Accordingly, Applicants believe that the Helmut reference does not teach the present invention. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request allowance of claims 1-11 and 14-21.

An extension of one month is requested and a Request for Extension of Time under § 1.136 with the appropriate fee is attached hereto.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment, including extension fees, to Deposit Account No. 20-0668 of Texas Instruments Incorporated.

Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Alan W. Lintel, Applicants' Attorney at (972) 664-9595 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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